



FOUNDATIONS OF JUVENILE LAW

| TEXAS FAMILY CODE AND RELATED LAWS



Juvenile Justice Training Academy
JPO | JSO Basic Course
December 1, 2018



TEXAS
JUVENILE JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT

TRANSFORMING YOUNG LIVES AND CREATING SAFER COMMUNITIES

Objectives

- Discuss laws governing the juvenile justice system as outlined in the Texas Family Code and related laws.
- Examine procedural requirements necessary when supervising juveniles.
- Critically consider how juvenile law is applied in the juvenile justice system.

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Fundamentals



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Parallels

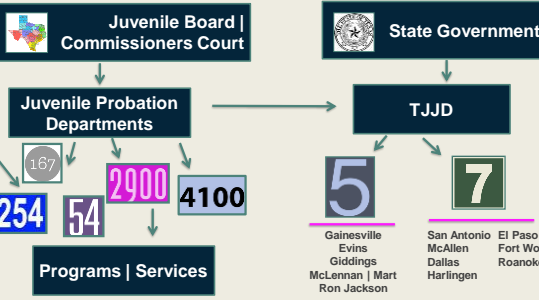


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Structure



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Age Limits



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Offender Categories



- Non-offenders
 - Abuse, dependency, or neglect, unrelated to crime
 - Deportation
- Status offenders
- Conduct indicating a need for supervision
- Delinquent conduct

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CATEGORIES



THE BASIC	PARALLEL	STRUCTURE	AGE LIMIT	OFFENDERS
\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400
\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600
\$800	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$800

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JEOPARDY

THE BASICS

\$200

The juvenile justice system structure is outlined in...

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JEOPARDY

THE BASICS

\$200

What is the Human Resource Code?

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JEOPARDY

THE BASICS

\$400

Juvenile cases have elements of both civil law and...

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JEOPARDY

THE BASICS

\$400

What is criminal law?



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
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JEOPARDY

THE BASICS

\$600

Consequences for juvenile delinquency are met with treatment, training, and...



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JEOPARDY

THE BASICS

\$600

What is rehabilitation?



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JEOPARDY

THE BASICS

\$800

A key factor in determining whether a juvenile will be held responsible for his (or her) actions in juvenile court is...

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JEOPARDY

THE BASICS

\$800

What is age?



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JEOPARDY

PARALLELS

\$200

A trial in criminal court is equivalent to *this* in the juvenile justice system.

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JEOPARDY

PARALLLS

\$200

What is an adjudication hearing?



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
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JEOPARDY

PARALLLS

\$400

A juvenile has been taken into custody. She is not jailed but rather...



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JEOPARDY

PARALLLS

\$400

What is detained?



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JEOPARDY

PARALLLS

\$600

Sara, a 14-year-old would plead *this* in a juvenile case.

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JEOPARDY

PARALLLS

\$600

What is true or not true?



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JEOPARDY

PARALLLS

\$800

Defendant is the same as *this* in the juvenile justice system.

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JEOPARDY

PARALLLS

\$800

What is respondent?



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JEOPARDY

STRUCTURE

\$200

The number of juvenile probation departments in Texas.



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JEOPARDY

STRUCTURE

\$200

What are 167?



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JEOPARDY

STRUCTURE

\$400

Local juvenile boards set budgets, oversee inspection of facilities, and...

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JEOPARDY

STRUCTURE

\$400

What is establish local guidelines and policies?



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JEOPARDY

STRUCTURE

\$600

Juveniles unable to be rehabilitated in the community and *this* are likely to be committed to TJJD for a felony adjudication.

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JEOPARDY

STRUCTURE

\$600

What is require specialized treatment?



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JEOPARDY

STRUCTURE

\$800

TJJD Halfway houses help juveniles with...



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JEOPARDY

STRUCTURE

\$800

What is a smooth transition back home?



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JEOPARDY

AGELIMITS

\$200

The definition of “child” under the Texas Family Code includes *these* ages.

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JEOPARDY

AGELIMITS

\$200

What are 10-years-old and under 17-years-old?



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JEOPARDY

AGELIMITS

\$400

A 7-year-old may receive services from *this* DFPS program.

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JEOPARDY

AG LIMITS

\$400

What is the STAR program?



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JEOPARDY

AG LIMITS

\$600

Sean, a 14-year-old may be subject to *this* if he is alleged to have committed capital murder.

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JEOPARDY

AG LIMITS

\$600

What is certification as an adult and transferred to the adult criminal system?



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JEOPARDY

AGELIMITS

\$800

Jane turned 18-years-old last month and is still under *this* department's jurisdiction.

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JEOPARDY

AGELIMITS

\$800

What is the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD)?



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JEOPARDY

OFFENDERS

\$200

Truant conduct is considered...

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JEOPARDY

OFFENDERS!

\$200

What is a status offense?



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JEOPARDY

OFFENDERS!

\$400

This is when a child commits an offense that would be considered a crime as an adult...

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JEOPARDY

OFFENDERS!

\$400

What is juvenile delinquency?



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JEOPARDY

OFFENDER!

\$600

When juveniles are held for deportation or appear in court for an abuse, dependency, or neglect case, they are considered...

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JEOPARDY

OFFENDER!

\$600

What is a non-offender?

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JEOPARDY

OFFENDER

\$800

An offense, such as possession of marijuana, which violates penal laws of Texas and the United States.

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JEOPARDY
OFFENDERS!

\$800

What is delinquent conduct?




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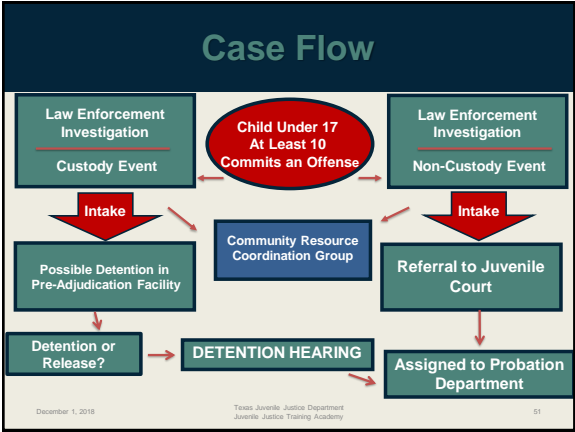
Case Flow




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Detention Hearings



- Likely to abscond?
- Lack of supervision?
- Parent unable to appear in court?
- Danger to self or others?
- Risk to commit new offense?
- Referral weapon related?


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Court | Adjudication Hearings

- Juvenile District Court
- Justice of the Peace | Municipal Court | County Court | Truancy Court
- Specialty Court
- Cross-Over Court



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Disposition Hearings

- Community service
- Fees
- Restitution
- Counseling
- Anger management
- Substance abuse classes
- DNA testing | certain felony and sex adjudications
- School attendance
- Residential placement
- TJJD



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Modification Hearings



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TJJD Commitment

Indeterminate Commitment

- TJJD determines time
- May remain until day before 19th birthday
- Parole

Determinate Commitment

- Range of 10-40 years
- TJJD release at age 19
- Parole

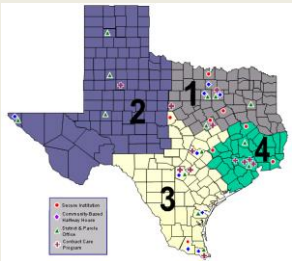
Progression through TJJD

• Orientation

• Release

• Placement

• Discharge



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JPO Practical Considerations



- Know the law and where to find it
- Appropriate dispositions
- Educate yourself
- Take your time | proofread
- Do not falsify documents
- Inform parent | guardian of legal rights and responsibilities
- Don't take things personally

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JSO Practical Considerations

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Activity | What's the Word?




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Activity | Facts of Law



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Final Thoughts

Justice requires that we work to restore those who have been injured.

- As a juvenile justice professional, an understanding of the law is critical to the job you do.
- Juveniles and their families must have an understanding of the law and how it may impact them.
- Legal decisions will directly affect a juvenile's rehabilitation and success during their supervision term.

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